Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently amended) A method of expanding a population of stem or progenitor cells, the method comprising steps of:

providing at least one stem or progenitor cell with less than wild type p21 activity and a lack of inhibition of p27 activity; and

expanding the cell population.

2. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of providing comprises:

providing a stem or progenitor cell; and

disrupting the cell's p21 gene.

3. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of providing comprises:

providing a stem or progenitor cell; and

contacting the cell with an agent, wherein the agent inhibits p21 activity.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Canceled)

6. (Canceled)

7. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the cell is a stem cell.

8. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the cell is a hematopoietic stem cell.

9. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the cell is a hematopoietic progenitor cell.

10. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the cell is an erythropoietic cell.

11. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the cell is a granulopoietic cell.

12. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the cell is a thrombopoietic cell.

13. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the cell is a neural cell.

14. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the cell is selected from the group consisting of renal ~~cell~~ cells, gastrointestinal ~~cell~~ cells, hepatic ~~cell~~ cells, skin ~~cell~~ cells, lung ~~cell~~ cells, muscle ~~cell~~ cells, ~~and~~ cardiac muscle ~~cell~~ cells, and combinations thereof.

15. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the cell is an adult-derived stem cell.

16. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the cell is an embryonically derived stem cell.

17. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the cell is a pluripotent stem cell.

18. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the cell is a multi-potential stem cell.

19. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the cell is a fetal cell.

20. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the cell is an embryonic cell.

21. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the cell is a mesenchymal cell.

22. (Previously presented) The method of claim 3, wherein the agent is a protein.

23. (Previously presented) The method of claim 3, wherein the agent is a peptide.

24. (Previously presented) The method of claim 3, wherein the agent is a polynucleotide.

25. (Previously presented) The method of claim 3, wherein the agent is a chemical compound.

26. (Previously presented) The method of claim 3, wherein the agent is an antibody or fragment thereof.

27. (Previously presented) The method of claim 3, wherein the agent is an antisense agent.

28. (Previously presented) The method of claim 3, wherein the agent is a triple helix forming agent.

29. (Previously presented) The method of claim 3, wherein the agent is an aptamer.

30. (Currently amended) A stem or progenitor cell with less than wild type p21 activity and a lack of inhibition of p27 activity.

31. (Currently amended) The ~~A~~ stem or progenitor cell of claim 30 with at least one copy of the p21 gene disrupted.

32. (Currently amended) The ~~A~~ stem or progenitor cell of claim 30 with both copies of the p21 gene disrupted.

33. (Canceled)

34. (Canceled)

35. (Canceled)

36. (Original) The cell of claim 30, wherein the cell is a stem cell.

37. (Original) The cell of claim 30, wherein the cell is a progenitor cell.

38. (Canceled)

39. (Canceled)

40. (Canceled)

41. (Canceled)

42. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of the cells of claim 30.

43. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of the stem cells of claim 36.

44. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of the progenitor cells of claim 37.

45. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of the cells of claim 30, and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.

46-74. (Canceled)

75. (Previously presented) The method of claim 3, wherein the agent is an RNA inhibiting agent.